

control, and enforcement of labor laws against employers who knowingly hire and exploit undocumented workers. However, we believe that many of the provisions in this bill undermine the ultimate purpose of immigration control, often at the expense of major groups of Americans including Latinos and others who look or sound "foreign."

Several such provisions in this sweeping legislation have generated severe opposition from many sectors of society and leaders on both sides of the aisle because they undermine the basic principles of good immigration reform legislation. NCLR joins in that opposition on the grounds that such measures do not constitute effective immigration reform, and are likely to harm hardworking Americans, particularly Latinos. We urge, therefore, that you consider the following recommendations when this legislation reaches the floor:

Support the Chabot/Conyers amendment to strike the verification system—NCLR joins a broad range of organizations including small businesses, labor unions, and civil rights organizations, which oppose the establishment of a government computer system to verify workers. Because of the intense opposition to this provision, the bill's sponsor, Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX) has modified this provision by making the system "voluntary" for employers and by deleting some civil rights protections which were added to the system by the Judiciary Committee. Such changes do not appease opponents of the verification system; even a voluntary system ensures the creation of the government database, and it is highly unlikely that it will be "voluntary" in practice in the short term. We believe that once Congress invests in the creation of a system, it will inevitably act to make the system mandatory. The establishment of a verification system will be costly, and will inappropriately inconvenience both employers and legally authorized workers who are playing by the rules, and simply want to do business and work without government interference.

Oppose the Gallegly/Bilbray/Seastrand/Stenholm amendment establishing a mandatory verification pilot program in 5 of the 7 states with the largest number of undocumented immigrants. This amendment would restore the original mandatory verification system, which was modified because of concern that it would prove costly to taxpayers, to businesses and to workers, and that its error rates would result in a one-in-five chance that a legitimate worker would be denied job opportunities because of mistakes in the government's computers. Employers who play by the rules would be forced to abide by new procedures, while those who intentionally hire undocumented workers with full knowledge that they are violating the law would simply continue to do business as usual.

Support the Brownback/Berman/Chrysler amendment to strike the legal immigration changes: H.R. 2202 represents the most extreme changes to the legal system in 70 years, and unfairly exploits public concern over illegal immigration to impose unwarranted restrictions on legal immigration. The provisions in this section of the bill would prevent U.S. citizens from reuniting with their spouses, minor children, adult children, and siblings. Such changes unnecessarily undermine the nation's family values, and punish U.S. citizens who play by the rules and wait in long lines to reunite with their loved ones.

Support the Velazquez/Roybal-Allard amendment to allow U.S.-born children to have access to services and protections regardless of the legal status of their parents. It is unreasonable and outrageous to use U.S. citizen children as a means of punishing

their parents for their immigration status. This provision does nothing to control undocumented immigration, and severely punishes innocent Americans.

Oppose the Pombo/Chambliss, Goodlatte, and Condit amendments to create a massive new guestworker program. NCLR strongly opposes amendments to introduce or alter guestworker programs in order to bring hundreds of thousands of new, exploitable workers for the agricultural industry. These amendments are inimical to the purpose of the legislation; they are unnecessary, and would harm both the guestworkers themselves and Americans who work in agriculture.

Oppose the Gallegly amendment to deny public education to undocumented children—This amendment defies a Supreme Court decision by allowing states to deny public education to undocumented children. It is both ineffective and unreasonable to punish children for the immigration status of their parents; such a measure undermines the well being of the entire community.

Oppose the McCollum amendment to create a national I.D. card—This amendment would turn the Social Security card into a national identification card. The Social Security Administration has estimated that the cost of generating such a card for all Americans would be \$6 billion. Such a card would lead to massive civil rights abuses as Americans who look and sound "foreign" would be asked to demonstrate that they really belong in this country over and over again.

Oppose the Tate amendment to bar admission to former undocumented immigrants—This amendment is excessively harsh, and would undermine several key tenets of immigration law. A U.S. citizen who marries someone who came illegally to the United States would be precluded from petitioning for his/her spouse to become a permanent resident. It is unnecessary to punish U.S. citizens in this manner; such a policy will do little to control immigration.

Oppose the Bryant (TN) amendment to require medical facilities to report their patients to the INS—If such an amendment is adopted, immigrants and their American family members will be frightened to seek medical care, to the detriment of the entire community. America can control undocumented immigration without bringing ugly enforcement efforts to the emergency room.

Oppose the Rohrabacher amendment to repeal the immigrant adjustment provision—This amendment would eliminate a procedure in existing law requiring persons adjusting their status to pay a higher fee rather than return to their home countries to process their papers. This procedure was advocated for by the State Department, to avoid having to process large numbers of immigrant petitions at foreign consulates. Overturning this procedure accomplishes nothing toward immigration enforcement, and would seriously inconvenience Americans reuniting with immigrant family members.

NCLR acknowledges the right and duty of any sovereign nation to control its borders, and we have consistently supported sound measures pursuant to that goal. We do not support the kind of unnecessary, extremist, and ineffective proposals embodied in—and being proposed as amendments to—the pending legislation. Such amendments do a great deal to undermine the nation's most sacred values and nothing substantive toward immigration control. We urge you to vote in keeping with American values and ideals and prevent unnecessarily divisive provisions from being enacted.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

RAUL YZAGUIRRE,
President.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIBERTY TRIBUNE

HON. PAT DANNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Ms. DANNER. Mr. Speaker, since the Liberty Tribune's initial publication on April 4, 1846, and through the Civil War, both World Wars, America's voyages into space and countless other events, great and small, the newspaper has faithfully reported the news of the day. In fact, it is my understanding that the Liberty Tribune is the oldest continually published paper west of the Mississippi. This is truly an impressive accomplishment.

But longevity matters little if it is not accompanied by substance and style. The paper has more than passed muster on all three accounts, and the city of Liberty is a better place today because of it.

Community newspapers such as the Liberty Tribune serve as an important meeting place for generations of people from all walks of life. They provide information, chronicle the rough times, tout the good ones, and serve as a community's conscience when needed.

This is particularly true for our young people, who see that their successes in the classroom and on the ballfields make the local paper. They read about the important contributions of local civic leaders and witness how the power of well-reasoned opinions—on matters from local school district bond issues to international affairs—can affect government.

I know that the Liberty Tribune reports the positive happenings in the community as well as the bad news—true balanced reporting. This should not be surprising as the paper has had plenty of experience.

For instance, it is interesting to note that the Liberty Tribune started publication while James Polk was President. Some of the paper's first articles were about the Mexican-American War, in particular the story of Col. Alexander Doniphan and his troops from Clay County who fought in the Battle of Bracito. Year later, the Liberty Tribune covered the Civil War and Jesse James. But to put matters into perspective, all of this is really little more than a quick glance back into history full of so much more news and reporting by the Liberty Tribune.

William Allen White, a towering figure in midwestern journalism for decades, believed that a hometown newspaper should serve a dual role—reporting the news and serving as a booster for the community. He understood that the true community newspaper works diligently not only to deliver the news but also to improve the community.

When the editor of a metropolitan paper scoffed at Mr. White and his Emporia, KS, Gazette, the respected small town editor fired back a timeless response.

"Know this and know it well," White said. "If you would take the clay from your eyes and read the little paper as it is written you would find all of God's beautiful sorrowing, struggling, aspiring world in it—and what you saw

would make you touch the paper with reverent hands."

Mr. Speaker, the Liberty Tribune can take pride in being an important part of the strong tradition of balanced, community-minded reporting of which Mr. White spoke so eloquently.

TRIBUTE TO VIRGIL FROST ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant in northwest Ohio. On December 31, 1995, Virgil Frost retired from his position as a bailiff/probation officer for Bowling Green Municipal Court.

Virgil Frost was born in Athens, OH, and graduated from Athens High School. He received his undergraduate degree from Ohio University and completed his graduate work at Bowling Green State University. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Ohio Correctional and Court Services, the Kiwanis, and the National Criminal Justice Honor Society.

Virgil can look back on his career with great pride. In all of his duties, he has demonstrated a commitment to hard work and honest public service. During the course of his service, Virgil has held positions as a social worker with the Maumee Youth Camp and as the director of the Wood County Adult Probation Department. Because of his extensive experience, he has become a recognized expert in many areas of law enforcement and has received numerous performance awards for his work. Through his caring and dedicated efforts, he has literally improved the lives of a tremendous number of Wood County residents.

Americans would not be able to enjoy the blessings of our country without the tireless dedication of those who have the talent and willingness to work for the community. It is for this reason we owe a special debt of gratitude to people like Virgil, who have done an outstanding job for northwest Ohio. While he may be leaving his official capacity, I know he will continue to be actively involved in those causes dear to him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying a special tribute to Virgil, his wife, Patricia, and their sons, Mike, Mark, and Mathew, and wish them all the best in the years ahead.

FAIRNESS TO MINORITY WOMENS HEALTH ACT; WOMENS HEALTH EQUITY ACT

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, domestic violence is an epidemic in our country. The statistics on family violence are staggering. Each year 4 million women are severely assaulted by their current or former partners. In fact, domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women aged 15 to 44.

This national tragedy affects women from all social economic groups. However, poor immi-

grant women with children face unique challenges and bureaucratic hurdles. Under current law, legal residents who are in abusive relationships are not entitled to AFDC benefits or food stamps if they flee their homes to escape domestic violence. As a result, many women are forced to choose between feeding their children or being battered.

The current system has failed to provide protection and equity for battered immigrant women. This unfortunate situation had led me to introduce the Fairness to Minority Womens Health Act as part of the womens caucus' Womens Health Equity Act. My legislation would ensure that AFDC benefits and food stamps are granted to women and their children who escape domestic violent situations.

At times it is difficult for battered women to talk about domestic violence. This is especially true for language minority women who may feel intimidated by counselors who do not speak their language. My bill provides bilingual family planning and counseling services.

This legislation also calls for a study on violence in the lives of Latino women and their children. Gathering factual data on the causes and effects must be a priority if the true extent of the problem of violence is to be addressed.

Every woman should be able to escape domestic violence. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in sponsoring this historic piece of legislation. We must work to ensure that all women seeking safety for themselves and their children get the help they desperately need. It's an investment worth making.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT GROVER CLEVELAND

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to President Grover Cleveland as we celebrate this year the 159th anniversary of his birth in the great State of New Jersey.

One of New Jersey's most famous sons, Grover Cleveland entered the public arena with plain, honest talk and unwavering, uncompromising principles. His forthrightness in telling the truth was overwhelmingly refreshing for his time. President Cleveland's blunt political style and sincere dedication to public service enabled him to enchant the American people.

During his first year in office, President Cleveland, still a bachelor, worked 18-hour days to prove to the American public that they had elected the right man for the job. In an era of low expectations for the Nation's Chief Executive, President Cleveland labored tirelessly to rejuvenate the prestige, honor, and authority of the Presidency.

After his failed attempt for reelection, Grover Cleveland never lost his zeal for reform or his resolve to succeed. Amazingly, he fully expected to be President once again; a feat in American politics equal to coming back from the dead. However, on the last day of President Cleveland's first term, his new bride, Frances, remarked to a White House staffer to take good care of the furniture because they planned to return in just 4 years from today. Indeed, 4 years later, President Grover Cleve-

land became the only President in American history to win a second term after a 4-year political hiatus.

Discipline, work, courage, perseverance, and honesty—these are the attributes associated with Grover Cleveland's legacy. I am proud to give praise and honor to President Cleveland's memory and his selfless service to our Nation.

AIDS NOW THIRD LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN YOUNG WOMEN

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am reintroducing legislation today to address the need for increased research on HIV-AIDS in women and more targeted HIV-AIDS prevention and outreach efforts for women. Senator PAUL SIMON will be reintroducing the bills in the Senate in the next several weeks.

AIDS is now the third leading cause of death among women who are 25-44 years of age, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The two largest increases in 1994, the year covered by the latest statistics, were a 30-percent increase among white women and a 28-percent increase among African-American women. AIDS was the cause of death for at least one out of every five young African-American women.

Women of color have been most severely affected; while African-American women and Latinas account for only 21 percent of women in the United States, they make up 54 percent and 20 percent of cumulative AIDS cases among women, respectively.

Since I first introduced legislation addressing HIV-AIDS and women in 1990, we have made progress on these issues. The National Institute on Allergy and Infectious Diseases [NIAID] initiated the women's natural history study, the women's interagency HIV study, and has worked to increase the number of women in clinical trials. Both NIAID and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development [NICHD] have increased the resources devoted to topical microbicide research. I commend the NIAID and NICHD for their efforts, and I urge the research community to continue the momentum in these directions. This year's research bill reflects the progress that has been made, and provides for additional funding to further these gains.

A major focus of our research bill continues to be funding for research on topical microbicides and barrier methods of protection from sexually transmitted diseases [STD's], including HIV, that women can use with or without their sexual partner's cooperation or knowledge. The development of a topical microbicide—a compound capable of preventing the transmission of HIV and a range of STD's—is critically needed and would revolutionize our U.S. and global HIV and STD prevention programs.

Current HIV prevention methods rely on the cooperation of male partners. Many women lack the power within relationships to insist on condom use, as well as the resources to leave situations that place them at risk. It is critical